

**From:** Kassetas, Pete N., DPS

**Sent:** Friday, December 21, 2018 9:48 AM

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**Subject:** Orlando, Thornberry and DeJarnette

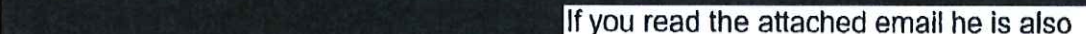
All,

I am again exercising my right to object to the settlement mediation scheduled for December 27, 2018 between RMD and Orlando, Thornberry and DeJarnette. I objected to a settlement for the Armendariz, Suggs and Martinez-Jones claims and that was settled. Now we are facing huge inflated demands from Orlando, Thornberry and DeJarnette by their lawyer Merritt Bennett. In addition, after the first case settled it seems terminated Officer Jessica Turner is also preparing for yet another claim.

I have stated many times that during my tenure as chief my record for equal treatment for all DPS employees is well documented. The false claims made against me can and should be defended. I believe me, the Governor and the tax payers are being and have been extorted by Armendariz, Suggs, Martinez-Jones, Orlando, Thornberry, DeJarnette and Turner and their respective attorney's.



I clearly understand the concept of settling cases that will cost the taxpayer more money to defend than settle. I am not so sure that was achieved in the Armendariz, Suggs and Martinez-Jones case especially so close to the end of an administrations run.

 If you read the attached email he is also attempting to extort the state based off of potential personal embarrassing events surrounding the Governor and Mr. Franco. I assume Jessica Turner will also use the same information to further extort the taxpayers.

Amy Orlando has been allowed to operate unchecked as she was closely aligned with Governor Martinez and has ruined the careers of countless state employees to include

mine with gossip and false information passed to the Governor and other key people close to her.

I have no knowledge of Dianna ever being mistreated while a DPS employee. As it relates to Ms. Thornberry, she has made numerous EEOC claims against me and every one of them has been investigated and I have been cleared of any wrongdoing. See attached.

If anyone has been the target of a directed campaign to be removed from employment it has been me. I have dedicated 26 years of my life to this agency. I did not start having issues with Governor Martinez until she began the process of replacing Secretary Greg Fouratt. When Ms. Orlando learned that I did not support her for the DPS cabinet position she called me and told me she was advised by Governor Martinez that I had not supported her and she was very upset. From that point forward she waged a relentless campaign against me to have me removed as chief. All of this was done while she was DPS Chief Legal Counsel and my lawyer. Not once did she recuse herself or file a formal complaint on me. I can prove she had direct involvement in the crafting of the EEOC filed by Julia Armendariz. See attached.

For the last two years about every three months like clockwork I have been dressed down by Governor Martinez about my alleged conduct. Now everyone knows the alleged conduct was false and the reason I was not placed on any type of disciplinary leave or terminated was because there was no proof I was operating in the manner that Amy Orlando prescribed I was. I asked Sec. Weaver for help and even the Governor. I was left to defend myself and now here I stand publicly humiliated and professionally and personally ruined.

I will not partake in the settlement mediation as I cannot be part of any extortion effort. I beg of you to cancel the settlement mediation scheduled for the 27<sup>th</sup> and let this case carry over to the next administration. The claims made against me, Sec. Weaver and Governor Martinez as completely defensible.

**Please do not settle this case.**

***Pete Kassetas***  
**Chief/Deputy Secretary**  
**New Mexico State Police**  
**Department of Public Safety**  
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